



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 7

11201 Renner Boulevard
Lenexa, Kansas 66219

FEB 25 2016

Mr. Gregory T. Usher
Beecher, Field, Walker, Morris, Hoffman & Johnson, P.C.
Court Square Building, Suite 300
620 Lafayette Street
P.O. Box 178
Waterloo, Iowa 50704

RE: Former Waterloo Industries Building in Waterloo, Iowa

Dear Mr. Usher:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has received your letter of February 15, 2016 asking questions about the subject site on behalf of your clients Michael and LuAnn Miller. EPA's answers to those questions are provided below.

1. "Do Mr. and Mrs. Miller have reason for concern to their health based on their exposure to the contaminants in the air at their storage unit in the former Waterloo Industries Building?"

No. Air samples have been taken in the self-storage area of the former Waterloo Industries Building, and low concentrations of several contaminants have been detected in the air. While a few of these contaminants exceed health-based levels for a hypothetical full-time employee working in the self-storage area eight hours a day, five days a week, for 25 years, there would be no significant short nor long-term health risk to individuals, such as the Millers, who only visit the building a few times per year. In addition, the proposed remedy to clean up the contamination beneath the building will further reduce any future risks to visitors and workers present in the building.

2. "What is the status of their items held in storage? Do they need to destroy everything as a result of the exposure to these contaminants? If the items do not need to be destroyed, is there a cleaning process that should be followed for items they do not want to part with?"

The contaminants found in the indoor air samples within the self-storage area would have no effect on items stored there at the low concentrations found there; they would not contaminate or "soak into" the items. Simply carrying the items out of the storage unit and opening boxes in the course of loading them into their vehicle for transportation would exchange any indoor air in the boxes for outdoor air.

RCRA



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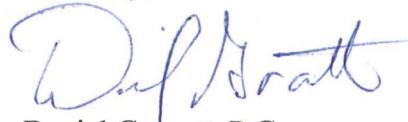


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3. "Is there a resource or contact that the Millers should utilize to get answers to their questions if this is not the proper forum for these matters?"

The Millers can contact me directly by phone at (913) 551-7324 or via e-mail at gravatt.dan@epa.gov if they have additional questions in the future. I will be available at the upcoming public meeting at the Black Hawk County YMCA on March 14 from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. to discuss their concerns in person.

Sincerely,



Daniel Gravatt, P.G.
RCRA Corrective Action and Permits Section
Waste Remediation and Permitting Branch
Air and Waste Management Division